

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT[641]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 139A.8, the Department of Public Health hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 7, “Immunization and Immunization Education: Persons Attending Elementary or Secondary Schools, Licensed Child Care Centers or Institutions of Higher Education,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Chapter 7 describes the permitted use of the Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS) for immunization and health screenings and addresses the release of IRIS information to the Department and among health care providers. The proposed amendments implement a refugee health screening module in IRIS. The proposed amendments will expand the definition of “health screening” to include refugee health screenings and allow refugee health screening information to be shared between the Department and health care providers.

Any interested person may make written suggestions or comments on these proposed amendments on or before December 29, 2015. Such written comments should be directed to Don Callaghan, Bureau Chief of Bureau of Immunization and TB, Department of Public Health, 321 East 12th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. E-mail may be sent to Donald.Callaghan@idph.iowa.gov.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 139A.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend rule **641—7.1(139A)**, definitions of “Health screening” and “Screening provider,” as follows:

“*Health screening*” means a vision screen, ~~or~~ dental screen, or refugee health screen.

“*Screening provider*” means an ophthalmologist, optometrist, pediatrician, ~~family-practice~~ physician, free clinic, child care center, local public health department, public or accredited nonpublic school, community-based organization, advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP), physician assistant, dentist or dental hygienist.

ITEM 2. Adopt the following **new** subrule 7.12(5):

7.12(5) *Among the department and physicians, physician assistants, nurses, and certified medical assistants conducting refugee health screenings.* Refugee health screenings shall be disclosed only as indicated in this rule. Immunization or health screening information, including the patient’s last name, first name, date of birth, and demographic information; the vaccine(s) administered and the month, day, and year of administration; health screening results; and clinic source and location, shall be disclosed upon written or verbal request among the department, physicians, physician assistants, nurses, certified medical assistants, or screening providers to another health care provider or the department. Written or verbal permission from the parent, guardian or patient is not required to release this information.